

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

USEPA Region 5 USEPA Region 5

Dear USEPA Region 5 Region 5,

We are excited by the prospect of daylighting Lick Run and finally reducing raw sewage discharges into the Lower Mill Creek. Green infrastructure or source separation can potentially be a win/win for ratepayers and the environment.

However, the sewer district needs to improve the proposed plan to make sure the daylighted stream can support ecological functions, provide ecological services, and be an asset to the community instead of a conveyance ditch.

Green infrastructure techniques such as those identified by USEPA, (greenways, rain gardens, swales, native landscaping, porous pavement, green roofs, rain barrels and other on-site water re-use, etc) are lacking through out the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy, particularly in upper sub-watersheds of the Mill Creek. Utilizing low impact design, and installing widespread, small, and decentralized source separation projects will create a system that is more adaptable, easier maintained, and provide greater eco-system services.

We encourage increased public involvement & citizen science in implementing green infrastructure improvements. Partnerships with citizens & businesses, including incentives for storm water control is lacking in the Lower Mill Creek partial remedy proposal. Water quality monitoring is also absent from the proposal.

The sewer district needs to include best management practices for stormwater pollution control in the daylighted portion of Lick Run.

We also support improved water monitoring to show demonstrated progress toward water quality goals and identifying the most urgent areas for improvements.

Please include the Sierra Club's recommended changes to the sewer district's plan as conditions of your approval.

We appreciate USEPA taking the time to evaluate the MSD plan and take our comments into consideration. The Ohio River and our communities deserves this.